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COMISSÃO PARA OS DIREITOS DO POVO MAUBERE

M E M O

4 east timorese students in Jakarta waiting the repatriatment to Portugal

1. In September 3rd. 1986, has been arrested in the Unika Atma Jaya Catholic University, ANTONINO GONÇALVES, a finalist law student, 34 years old, from Atsabe, East Timor.

2. In September 16th 1986, has been arrested, at home, in Jakarta, round midnight, JOÃO FREITAS DA CÂMARA, university student, 29 years old, from Zumalai-Suai, East Timor.

3. In september 17th. 1986, has been arrested at home, round 5 o'clock a.m., FRANCISCO FERNANDES DE SOUSA, university student, 30 years old, from Viqueque, East Timor.

4. On these three cases, all the detained have been transported to jail in a closed car, blindfold. They have been submited to forced work (excavations, carriage of stones and sand) they have been obliged to sign a document ("Beria Acara", which means "Report of Investigation") in which they denied to have been maltreated during the processus of investigations and inquirings.

5. In October 11th. the three students, suddenly, were released, under menace, in case of divulgation the way of detaining.

6. Since than, intimidations and the permanent vigilance of the secret political police of Indonesia.

7. In October 17th. the three students and two more, ABÍLIO OLIVEIRA SERENO, 29 years old, from Ainaro, East Timor and FERNANDO DA SILVA, 27 years old, from Dili, have been boarded by an element of political police, who offer them free tickets to return to Dili, in October 22nd. , for some holidays.

COMISSÃO PARA OS DIREITOS DO POVO MAUBERE — CDPM
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This offer was made in a normal period of classes in University.

8. In October 20th., 4 of the 5 students ANTONINO GONÇALVES, ABÍLIO SERENO, FERNANDO SOARES e JOÃO FREITAS DA CÂMARA went to the dutch Embassy in Jakarta, asking for political help and protection from Portugal. Their decision had been taken because the invitation above described, the persecution they suffered and the knowledgement of the 'luck' indonesian authorities reserve to their compatriots, namely the recent wave of prisons, which recommenced last July, and at this moment they are also arresting east timorese with responsabilities in the local administration of the territory.

9. In October 22nd., in the sight of repeated menaces of being arrested again, made by dutch Embassy's fonctionnaries or by indonesian elements of political police, the 4 students decidec to leave the dutch Embassy but they didn't give up their wish to leave Jakarta.

10. In October 26th. the dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs had a meeting with Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs whom assured that indonesian authorities were in disposition to gave the "visa" to the four east timorese students.

11. Portuguese gouvernment decided, few days later, to give the passports to the students and take the responsability of their trip to Lisbon. And so, Portugal gave instructions in this sense, to the dutch gouvernment, which represents Portugal in Jakarta, in a point of view of diplomacy.

12. In middle of November, the 4 east timorese students were informed by the dutch embassy they had already their portuguese passports.

13. In the last days of November, dutch embassy asked the indonesian authorities the "visa" of the students.

14. In December 6th. Comissão para os Direitos do Povo Maubere (CDPM) received an URGENT NOTE from dutch Commission Justice and Peace informing that indonesian authorities could take months to give the "visa".

15. The situation of the 4 east timorese students, nowaday, is such as follows: They stay at friends's home, in Jakarta; they don't receive the grants, so their f-nancial situation is bad, not assuring the food; they still in contact with dutch Embassy, but they are permanently pressioned by the visits of indonesian policemen, anonimous ring calls, death threaten, etc.
Mário Carrascalão, gouvernor of Esat Timor, visited them, summoning them to return to East Timor; their psicologycal conditions are of enormous anxiety and fear of what can happen to them if they aren't immediatly repatriated.

16. We have no doubts that the immediate action of international community, advised by Amnesty International, saved their lives. While hundreds of east timorese were arrested during the last months in East Timor, and still being, and we don't know where are they, the prison of these 4 east timorese students in Jakarta, originate a sucession of protests, including a manifestation of ECC's fonctionnaries, in front of indonesian Embassy (Bruxelles, September 23rd.), and the interference of australian and american embassies in Jakarta.

17. The attitude of the portuguese gouvernment, gaving the passports to the students is very important. However, only this is not enough to resolve the problem and save their lives. The dutch gouvernment must know the inquietation of the 4 students made by the delay of this case and the danger they face. The indonesian gouvernment must know we watch and care this case and they must act as they have promised, in a short time.
All the initiatives won't bee too much to save the lives of these east timorese students.

COMISSÃO PARA OS:DIREITOS DO POVO MAUBERE
Lisbon, December 17th- 1986